A

TREATISE

Concerning The

Internal WORD

AND

SPIRIT of GOD;

Being the WAY to Attain to the

True and Divine KNOWLEDGE

In the MYSTERIES of His

Eternal Kingdom.

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1 Cor. 2. 11. *For what man knoweth the things of man, save the Spirit of man that is in him; even so the things of God knoweth knoweth no man but the Spirit of God.*

Vers. 12. *Now we have received, not the Spirit of the World, but the Spirit which is of God, that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.*

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A TREATISE Concerning The Internal WORD AND Spirit of GOD, &c.

IN the beginning God made Man upright, and gave him Wisdom, Knowledge and Understanding of Life, Light and Glory, in which, while he continued, he delighted in the Sight and Presence of him who Created him, and gave him Life and Being; then he knew no Evil, but the Presence of God was with him, and the Tree of Life Planted for him, and he knew his Creator, God, who made him; but of all the Creation which hitherto the Lord had made, there was not found an help meet for him, therefore the Lord caused a deep Sleep to fall upon Man, and took one of his Ribs and made Woman, and they were both Innocent in his Sight, till the Serpent Tempted the Woman to break the Covenant of Life which God had made with them, by which they came to know Evil, and were deprived of the knowledge of Life; and Death and Darkness got Dominion over them, being drove into the Earth, and made Slaves to Sin, and Captives in the Kingdom of Darkness, and therein Ignorant of the *Chiefest Good*, till it pleased the Lord, in infinite Mercy, to promise Christ under the

Name of the Seed of the Woman, *Gen.* 3. 15. to Redeem them from that Slavery and Bondage of Corruption into which they were fallen by Tranſgreſſion; and becauſe of the Wickedneſs of Men before the Flood, the Lord ſaid, *My Spirit ſhall not always ſtrive with Man, for that he alſo is Fleſh*, *Gen.* 6. And when the Lord gave to *Iſrael* his Laws, adding the Law upon them, till the fulneſs of Time was come, that the Seed Chriſt was to be Manifeſted, he gave them alſo, with his Statutes and Judgments which he ſet before them, his *Good Spirit* to Inſtruct them, and give them Knowledge of his Mind and Will, *Nehem.* 9. 20. in all the Statutes and Judgments which the Lord then ſet before them, which while they obeyed and followed, they always had his Divine Secrets upon their Tabernacle, and knew the Angel of his preſence to go before them in all their Undertakings, for his Name and Glory, and no Enemy could ſtand before them, nor no Bleſſing was withheld from them; the *Word* and *Spirit* of *God* was very near unto them, even in their Mouths and Hearts, that they might hear and do it, *Deut.* 30. 14. and was the only Guide of Life, and Ground of Obedience, in all acceptable Performances to God in all Ages and Generations of the World, and brought forth a Miniſtration both of the Law and Prophets.

Jacob by this Spirit, propheſied of the Coming of Chriſt long before the Law was given by *Moſes*, *Gen.* 49. 10. *The Scepter ſhall not depart from Judah, nor a Law-giver from between his feet, till Shiloh come, and the People ſhall be gathered unto him*: This was fulfilled in the coming of the Juſt One, of whom all the Prophets from *Moſes* bore Teſtimony, *Acts.* 7. 52.

Balaam became a *great* Example of God's Diſpleaſure, who Erred from the Spirit of the Lord, and Loved the Wages of Unrighteouſneſs, tho he durſt not take it, nor could not Curſe *Iſrael*; but informed *Balak* in a way to inſnare their young Men, which brought a ſore Plague upon them, and kindled the Wrath of God againſt *Balaam*, that he *became a* South-ſayer, and was ſlain among the *Midianites* by the Children of *Iſrael*, according to the Commandment of God, *Joſh.* 13. 22. *Num.* 31. 8. But while the Children of *Iſrael* kept the Word of the Lord, and were inſtructed by his Spirit; in the time of *Moſes* and *Joſhua*, *and from Joſhua to Judah, and in ſome of the Prophets times*, their Affairs both Spiritual and Temporal proſpered, and no Enemy was able to ſtand before them.

Rev. 2. 14. *Joſephus* lib. 4. p. 85.

By the Word and Spirit of God, *Joſeph* Interpreted *Pharaoh*'s Dream, which none of the Magicians could, *Gen.* 41. for which he was advanced to high Dignity in *Pharaoh*'s Kingdom. And

And *Elihu* ſaid, *I am full of matter, the Spirit within me Compelleth me; Behold my Belly is as Wine which hath no vent, and as new bottles that break; therefore will I ſpeak, that I may be eaſed, I will open my Lips and will anſwer*, Job 32. 18, 19, 20.

And *David* ſaid, *I have hid thy Word in my heart, that I might not Sin againſt thee*, Pſ. 119. 11. This Word was a Lanthorn unto his feet, and a Light to his path, *v.* 105. And he prayed God to direct his ſteps in it, *v.* 133. *O ſend out thy Light and thy Truth; let them lead me, let them bring me unto thy holy Hill, and to thy Tabernacles*, Pſal. 43. 3.

But in *Judah*, when no Righteous Man was left among them, neither among the Rulers, they ſet up Prophets, but the Word of the Lord was not in them, and therefore they Propheſied Lyes in the Name of the Lord, and he gave them up to be Deſtroyed by the *Caldeans*, *Jer.* 5. For from the leaſt of them to the greateſt, every one was given to Covetouſneſs; and from the Prophet even to the Prieſt, every one dealt falſly.

But all the Righteous Generations, from the very Creation, in the ſeveral Diſpenſations and Miniſtrations in which they Lived; the Root and Ground from whence they performed their ſeveral Services to God, was the Word and Spirit of God, before the Scriptures were given forth.

Noah, by the Word of the Lord before the Flood, was inſtructed to walk in the way of Righteouſneſs and pleaſed God, and ſo was Saved from the Flood by the Ark, for he was *a Preacher of Righteouſneſs*, *Gen.* 7. 1. 2 *Pet.* 2. 5.

And *Abraham*, by the Word and Spirit of God, received the Covenant of Circumciſion, *Gen.* 17. and by the Direction thereof left his Father's houſe and his Country, and went into the Land of *Canaan*, believing the Promiſe of God, that his Seed ſhould inherit it, though he had not ſo much in Poſſeſſion, as to ſet his foot upon; and offered up the Son of his Old Age at the Word and Commandment of God, of which by the Spirit of God he had perfect Knowledge, before the Scriptures were given forth.

The Prophet *Iſaiah* ſaid, *With my Soul have I ſought thee in the Night, yea, with my Spirit within me, will I ſeek thee in the Morning*, Iſa. 26. 9.

And when the Lord reſtored *Iſrael*, from among the Heathen, whither he ſuffered them to be driven for their Iniquities; he promiſed to give them a New Heart, and put a New Spirit within them, and cauſe them to walk in his Statutes, and keep his Judgments, and do them, *Ezek.* 36. 26, 27. & 37. 14.

And *Daniel* the Prophet had the Spirit of the holy God, Light, Wiſdom and Underſtanding in him, by which he Interpreted the

Hand-

Hand-Writing on the Wall, that appeared before *Belſhazzar* King of *Babylon*, which all the Wiſe Men of *Babylon* could not underſtand, nor interpret, *Dan.* 5. 11. & 6. 3.

And in the Goſpel Miniſtration, the Spirit of Truth is univerſally tendered to all Mankind, to be the grounded Cauſe of the True and Saving Knowledge of God, and of his Son Jeſus Chriſt, whom to know is Eternal Life, *John* 17. 3.

And *Paul* Teſtified to the *Corrinthians*, *As it is Written, Eye hath not ſeen, nor Ear hard; neither have entred into the Heart of Man the things that God hath prepared for them that Love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit, for the Spirit ſearcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God,* 1 Cor. 2. 9, 10. Here that great Apoſtle gives Preheminence to the Spirit of Truth, beyond outward Literature, (tho' he had a great ſhare of it) in ſearching all things, yea, the deep things of God. And *Chriſt* ſaid to the *Jews*, *All things are delivered unto me of my Father; and no man knoweth the Son but the Father, neither knoweth any man the Father but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him*, Math. 11. 27. So the Root and Ground of the Divine Knowledge of God, and the things of his Kingdom, was by the Revelation of the Son of God in Man, by his Spirit of Grace, Life and Truth, in the True Goſpel-day; and the ſame Goſpel-day having Viſited us, hath brought forth the ſame Teſtimony; ſo that whoſoever attempts to ſearch into the Divine Myſteries of the deep things of God's Kingdom, and doth not firſt receive the Spirit of Truth, and give up to be governed thereby, and let it be the Key in his Hand and Heart to open the door thereunto, but climbeth up and ſeeketh to accompliſh it ſome other way, is a Thief and a Robber, and ſhall never find nor be able to unfold the Secrets of the Lord which are only Manifeſted to them who fear him, *Prov.* 3. 32. for they are hid from the Worldly Wiſe and Prudent, that the more they increaſe in Earthly Knowledge, the further they are from the depths of God's Wiſdom. On this account, *Chriſt* ſaid, *Strive to enter in at the ſtrait Gate, for many, I ſay unto you, will ſeek to enter in, and ſhall not be able*, Luke 13. 24. But the Spirit of Man being the Candle of the Lord, being Lighted by the Lord, ſearcheth the Heart of Man, *Prov.* 20. 27. *Pſal.* 18. 28. and diſcovereth the Deceit and deſperate Wickedneſs thereof, which none can know without it, *Jer.* 17. 9, 10. for it manifeſteth every evil Thought, Word and Deed, which the Enemy of Man's Soul ſuggeſts to him, and giveth knowledge and underſtanding of the Danger of it, and in Faith and Patience waiting in it for Strength and Power to reſiſt all Evil, it giveth Power and Victory

over

over it, ſo that none who loveth the Light, and believeth and walketh in it, doth complain for want of Power to reſiſt the Devil, and all his Aſſaults, Temptations, and Works of Darkneſs: But as many as thus receive Chriſt, the True Light, to them he gives Power to become the Sons and Daughters of God, *John* 1. 12. and gives them the ſight and knowledge of the Door of Entrance into his Eternal Kingdom, and leads them by the right hand of his Power thereunto; tho' *ſtrait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth to Life, and few there be that find it; But wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to Deſtruction, and many there be that go in thereat*, Math. 7. 13, 14. So that whoſoever gives not up to follow Chriſt the Light of the World, can never enter in at the ſtrait gate, nor receive Power to become the Sons and Daughters of God; but are always complaining for want of Power to reſiſt the Devil, and to do the Will and Work of God, which is Man's Sanctification; ſuch have not yet received Chriſt as he is given of God, to be a Saviour to all Mankind, from Sin and the power and prevalency of it; but implicitly count him a hard Maſter, who gives not ſufficient Power to do whatſoever he Commands.

Yea, ſuch make him more unjuſt, (as far as in them lyes) than the Evil One, for he gives his Servants full Power to do his Work, which is Sin and Iniquity; ſo there is no Complaint for want of Power to Sin in Thought, Word and Deed, but his Servants drink it in, as the Ox drinks Water, and commit Sin with greedineſs, without any Complaint for want of Power to effect it: Oh! Beware of this Unjuſt and Blaſphemous Opinion, or rather Deluſion of the Wicked One, for it hath led many to Deſtruction, by not improving of that Talent which the great Lord of Heaven and Earth hath committed to them, which is his Spirit, a Manifeſtation thereof being given to every Man to profit withal, 1 *Cor.* 12. 7.

And tho' he ſeems now to have taken his Journey into a far Country, yet he hath delivered his Goods to his Servants, to every one Talents, according to his own pleaſure, one at leaſt to every one, of which at his coming he will Require with Advantage, (*i. e.*) the Improvement of it in his Abſence, and who anſwers him herein ſhall have the Sentence, of *Well done, good and faithful Servant, enter thou into the Joy of thy Lord.* But if any ſhould neglect the Improvement of this Talent, and hide it up in his Earthly Heart, and ſay to his Maſter (when called to an Account) *I knew thee to be a hard man, and reaped where thou ſowedſt not, and gathered where thou ſtrowedſt not, and I was afraid, and hid my Talent in the Earth, behold thou haſt thine own, &c.* Math. 25. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25. Oh! what

was

was the Dreadful Sentence he received? Thou evil and slothful Servant, thou oughtest to have Improved my Talent; and Commanded it to be taken from him, and give it to him who had Improved his Talents, and of five had made them other five; and yet more Terrible! *Cast the unprofitable Servant into utter Darkness, where is weeping and gnashing of Teeth for ever*, v. 30. Oh! Dread and Fear the great God, you who are Sporting away your pretious time, and Eating, and Drinking, and rising up to Play, and Feasting, and Rioting with Gluttony, and in Words and hard Speeches, Beating your Fellow-Servants who are Improving their Talents in the time given them of their great Master, which is the Manifestation of the Spirit given to every Man and Woman to profit withal, some after one manner, and some after another, according to the Divine Wisdom of the Giver; some more, and some less, but a part to all, which ought to be Improved by all in their life time, and not Resisted and Quenched; for that was the Ruin of that great People the outward *Jews*, *Acts* 7. 51. and made them less sensible of the Coming and Power of Christ; than were the Unclean Spirits, who Confessed that they knew who the Son of God was, saying, *Let us alone, what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of* Nazareth? *Art thou come to Destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God*, Mark 1. 24. But the Chief Priests and Scribes of the *Jews* knew him not, but said he had a Devil, *John* 7. 20. and also that he cast out Devils by *Beelzebub* the Prince of Devils, *Mat.* 12. 24. But if they had received the Good Spirit of God, which was given of the Father to Instruct them, they had by it known the Power of his Coming, and the Vertue of his Life, which was given to Ransom them and all Mankind from Darkness and the Power of the Grave, this Life was and is the *Light of Men*, John 1. 4. and *Lighteth every Man that cometh into the Word*, v. 9. with and by this Light is the True and Saving Knowledge of God received, 2 *Cor.* 4. 6. and by no other way or means whatsoever, for God is Light, 1 *John* 1. 5. and manifesteth himself by and thorow his Son; and also whatsoever things are Reproved; are made Manifest by the Light, for whatsoever maketh Manifest the Deeds of Darkness, is Light, given of God to lead out of Darkness, and the Ways and Works thereof, *Job* 29. 3. *Isaiah* 55. 4. The Light giveth not only Knowledge, but Direction to walk in the Way of Righteousness, which alone leads to Everlasting Rest and Peace with God, *Isa.* 32. 17. *Prov.* 8. 20. This is the Way in which *Abraham*, *Isaac*, and *Jacob* walked to their Eternal Rest, even the Way of Holiness, which the Unclean cannot walk in, but it is prepared for the

the Wayfaring Men, which, tho' Fools, ſhall not Err therein; no Lyon ſhall be there, nor Ravenous Beaſt ſhall walk therein, nor be found there; but the Redeemed ſhall walk there, and the Ranſomed of the Lord ſhall return, and come to *Zion* with Songs, and Everlaſting Joy upon their Heads, and Sorrow and Sighing ſhall fly away, *Iſa.* 35. 8, 9, 10.

But as it happened to the outward *Jews* in their day, who by reſiſting and quenching the Meaſures of God's Spirit given them, whereby they might have ſeen and known Chriſt, in his appearing in that Body of Fleſh in all things like unto Man, Sin excepted.

Even ſo hath it happened in our day, to the outward and nominal Chriſtians, who by reſiſting and quenching the Spirit of God given them, are ignorant of the Power and Coming of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt in Spirit, and cannot receive him, nor the Teſtimony given of him by his Servants, but ſay as the Mockers which the Apoſtle *Peter* warns the Saints of, who walked after their own Luſts in the laſt days, ſaying, *Where is the Promiſe of his Coming? For ſince the Fathers fell aſleep, all things have continued as they were*; and Revelation is ceaſed, and nothing now to be depended upon, nor expected, but outward Literature acquired by Man's Wiſdom, and the Letter of the Scriptures, which the Chief Prieſts and Scribes of the *Jews* had, and thought to have Eternal Life in them, but would not come to Chriſt the Light, and ſo ſhut up the Kingdom of Heaven, and all Divine Knowledge and Underſtanding of the things appertaining to the Kingdom of God, from the Sons and Daughters of Men; and will neither enter themſelves, nor willingly ſuffer them that would, *Matth.* 23. 13.

But the Root of Divine Knowledge is ſpringing in many hearts, and the true Light is ſhining out of Darkneſs in many Souls, to give the Light of the Knowledge of the Glory of God in the face of Jeſus Chriſt; and this Treaſure we have in Earthen Veſſels, that the Excellency of the Power may be of God, and not of us, 2 *Cor.* 4. 6, 7.

And the Antient Doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jeſus Chriſt, is renewed again, with Living Thankſgiving to God, who hath hid the Secrets of his Kingdom from the Wiſe and Prudent of the World, and hath revealed them by his Spirit, unto Babes and Children, who are taught of him; and hath Choſen the fooliſh things of the World to Confound the Wiſe, and the weak things of the World to Confound the things which are Mighty; and baſe things of the World which are Deſpiſed, hath Choſen, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are; that no Fleſh ſhould Glory in his preſence; This was the Lord's Choice in the antient Goſpel day, 1 *Cor.* 1. 26, 27, 28, 29.

Now this Knowledge which is given to the weak and ignorant, by the Revelation of the Son of God in Spirit, is ſaving, and giveth

Life Eternal, to them who in Faith and Hope wait for it, and continue in it to the end; and such can tell others what the Lord hath done for their Souls, even what their hands have handled, and how they have tasted of the Word of Life, and what their Eyes have seen, and such wait low at the feet of Jesus to hear his Gracious Words, that they may speak what their Ears have heard, and publish what their Eyes have seen; such gathers not People to themselves, nor for their own Gain and Interest, nor seek not their own Glory; but turn People to Christ, the great Shepherd and Bishop of their Souls, that they may hear his Voice, and follow him, that he may give unto them Eternal Life, according to his Word, *John* 10. 27, 28.

But the Worlds Knowledge puffeth Men up into Pride, Mastership, and Lordship over God's Heritage, and such are not Examples of Meekness, Humility and Self-denial to the Flock, but like the Scribes and Pharisees which Christ cried Wo against, who loved the Chief Places at Feasts, and to have the Chief Seats in the Assemblies, and Greetings in the Markets, and to be called of Men *Rabbi* (*i. e.*) Master, *Mat.* 23. 5, 6. Mark who these are in our day, and know them, not by their Words, but Fruits, for that gives the true Knowledge of them, to whom the Wo now is, as Christ said, *Mat.* 7. 15, 16. And they who increase in the World's Knowledge, encreaseth Sorrow, *Eccles.* 1. 18.

But he who would have true Wisdom, and saving Knowledge, must attain thereto, by waiting and continuing in the fear of God, which is the beginning of it, *Prov.* 9. 10. And depart from Pride, Arrogancy, and every evil Way and Work, *Prov.* 8. 13. This is the way to Seal and Confirm it to every Soul; true Wisdom and Knowledge cannot be gotten for Gold, the price thereof is above Rubies. This little Legacy I am willing to leave to the World, which I have had long Experience of, in my Pilgrimage in this Life, that the Root and Ground of Divine Knowledge, and Spiritual Understanding of the things of God's Kingdom, is near unto every Man and Woman upon Earth, that they may go no more forth after them who say, Lo here is Christ, and lo there; for many Deceiver are (and for Ages have been) gone out into the World, who tho' in Words they profess Christ's Name, and seem to have great Veneration for him, yet in Works deny him, and will not that he shall Rule in their Hearts and Consciences, nor be followed and obeyed in all things, calling him Lord and Master, and yet do not his Commandments, these keep People Learning all their days, and yet the saving Knowledge of the Truth is still hid from them, and so freedom by it, never obtained, but live under the bondage of Corruption, and dye in their Sins, for want of receiving

ceiving the Word of the Kingdom, the Word of Faith, which is nigh in their Hearts, and giving up to obey it, which *Moſes* Teſtified unto many Ages and Generations by-paſt, *Deut.* 30. 14. ſaying to the Houſe of *Iſrael*, *The Word is very near unto thee*, even *in thy Mouth and in thy Heart, that thou mayeſt do it.* And *David* hid this Word in his Heart, that he might not Sin againſt God, *Pſal.* 119. 11. and it became a Lanthorn to his feet, and a Light to his path, *Pſal.* 119. 105.

And all along the true Prophets days, the Word of the Lord was in them, (*i. e.* Chriſt) whoſe Name was called the *Word of God*, *Rev.* 19. 13. by which they Propheſied of his coming into the World, *Iſa.* 7. 14. *Behold a Virgin ſhall Conceive and Bear a Son, and they ſhall call his Name Emanuel, or God with us*; which Name can agree to none, but to him that is both God and Man; to this agreeth the Propheſy of the Prophet *Iſaiah*, *A Virgin ſhall be with Child, and ſhall bear a Son, and they ſhall call his Name Emanuel, which by Interpretation is, God with us*, Math. 1. 23. and *Luke* 1. 27. And the Apoſtle writing to the *Romans* concerning the Righteouſneſs of Faith, *&c. For Moſes deſcribeth the Righteouſneſs, which is of the Law, that the Man who doth theſe things ſhall live* by *them*; *but the Righteouſneſs which is of Faith ſpeaketh on this wiſe, Say not in thine heart, Who ſhall aſcend into Heaven? That is, to bring Chriſt down from above: Or who ſhall deſcend into the deep? That is, to bring Chriſt again from the dead: But what ſaith it? The Word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that is the Word of Faith which we preach*, Rom. 10. 5, 6, 7, 8. John 8. 31, 32. by which Freedom and Redemption is obtain'd, according to the Teſtimony of Jeſus Chriſt, when on Earth.

And before he aſcended to the Father, he promiſed to ſend unto his Diſciples the Holy Ghoſt, which is the Spirit of Truth, which ſhould guide them into all Truth, *John* 16 13. This was, and is the true Guide of Life, Doctrine, and Converſation, to all true Goſpel-Believers, and will ſo continue to the End, to all who truly receive it, and walk in it, to whom there is no Condemnation, *Rom.* 8. 1. For the true Goſpel-Miniſtration, is a Miniſtration of the Spirit, and its Commands are Spiritual, which no Carnal Man or Woman (in that State) can perceive or know; for they are ſpiritually diſcerned and received, being included in the true and ſpiritual Worſhip of God the Father, in his Son Chriſt Jeſus, *Joh.* 4. 23.

Therefore we ſay, with the Apoſtle to the *Epheſians*, who were grown up to the Life and Spirituality of Chriſtianity, *There is one Body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your Calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptiſm, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all*, Eph. 4. 4, 5, 6.

And to the *Coloſſians*, when he inſtructed them concerning Meats and Drinks, or in reſpect of a Holy-Day, or New-Moon, or Sabbath-Day; he ſaid, *Which all are a Shadow of things to come; but the Body is of Chriſt; wherefore, if ye be Dead with Chriſt, from the Rudiments of the World, why, as though Living in the World, are ye ſubject to Ordinances? Touch not, taſte not, handle not; which all are to periſh with the uſing, after the Commandments and Doctrines of Men, which things have indeed a ſhew of Wiſdom in Will-worſhip and Humility, and neglecting the Body*, &c. *Col.* 2. 20, 21, 22, 23.

Now they being come to the Antitype of all Shadows, Types, and Figures, which are for a time allowed to be practiced in the firſt Covenant, though they did not diſallow them in their Time and Place; yet they Witneſſed an end of them, exhorting the Saints to *purge out the old Leaven, that ye may be a new Lump, as ye are Unleavened; for Chriſt our Paſſover is Sacrificed for us: Therefore, let us keep the Feaſt, not with old Leaven, neither with the Leaven of Malice, and Wickedneſs, but with the unleavened Bread of Sincerity and Truth*, 1 Cor. 5. 7, 8. Here was that Feaſt which ended, and was the Subſtance of all the *Jews* Feaſts, which were many and great, in remembrance that the Lord paſſed over the Doors of the *Hebrews*, when he deſtroyed the *Egyptians*, where the Blood of the Paſchal Lamb was ſprinkled upon the Lintel, and the Door cheek, according to the Commandment of *Moſes*, Exod. 12. 22, 23. And Chriſt the Paſchal Lamb offered himſelf once for all, that he might bear the Sins of many, in that Body wherein he finiſhed the Work his Father gave him to do on Earth, which the Spirit of Truth (in our Day) hath given us the true Knowledge, and ſincere Eſteem of; and alſo, that he is come again in Spirit, to ſprinkle our Hearts with his Blood; and if we keep within, the deſtroying Angel ſent of God to ſmite the *Egyptians*, will paſs over our Houſes: This was typified forth by the outward Paſſover, a Feaſt often kept by the outward *Jews*, who had the outward Circumciſion, Temple, and Offerings; and yet were ignorant of Chriſt, the true Chriſtian Paſſover, whoſe Blood had ſprinkled the Hearts and Conſciences of all true Believers, that the Deſtroyer could not enter into their Houſes. Thus was Salvation brought about them, for Walls and Bulwarks, according to the Teſtimony of *Iſaiah* the Prophet, *Iſa.* 26. 1. And the Church began to put on her beautiful Garments, and no more to be called *Deſolate* nor *Forſaken*; for her Stones were Living, built up together a ſpiritual Houſhold, an Habitation of God, through his Spirit, in which they Worſhiped him, and kept his Ordinances; the true Church her Bread was Living, and her Wine well refined; Her Biſhop and High Prieſt was Chriſt; her Beauty was Holineſs, the beautiful

tiful Garment, the Lamb's Righteousness, and Crowned with Glory and Immortality.

This was her State in the antient Gospel-day: But after the Spirit of Antichrist prevailed, and Men forsook the Lord, the Fountain of Living Waters, and digged to themselves Cisterns that would hold no Water; Then the false Church began to cloath her self with a glorious out-side, and sate as a Queen, having a Golden Cup in her Hand, full of the Filthiness of her Fornication; so that she prevailed with the Potentates of the Earth, and made them drunk with her Cup; by which their Hearts and Minds were adulterated from God. The great *Dragon*, that old Serpent, called the Devil, being *cast down* into the Earth; and the Beast that had seven Heads, and ten Horns, rose out of the Sea, and upon his Heads the Name of Blasphemy: And another Beast rose out of the Earth, which had two Horns like a Lamb; but he spoke like the *Dragon*, and exercised all the Power of the first Beast, and caused them who dwelt on the Earth to worship the Beast, and to receive his Mark, both Small and Great, Rich and Poor, Bond and Free, and deceived them that dwelt on the Earth, by the great Wonders that he was permitted to Work in the sight of the Beast; and the *Dragon* persecuted the true Church, and cast a Flood of *Water* out of his Mouth, after the Woman, that he might cause her to be carried away with the Flood; but the Earth helped the Woman, and opened her Mouth, and swallowed up the Flood: Then was the *Dragon* wroth with the Woman, and made War with the Remnant of her Seed; and the Beast that arose out of the Sea made War with them, and overcame them; and Power was given him, over every Kindred, Tongue and Nation; and all that dwelt upon the Face of the Earth worshipped him, whose Names were not written in the Book of the Life of the Lamb, which was slain from the Foundation of the World. Here Darkness, and the Power thereof, gained Victory in the Earth for many Generations; but a Refuge for the true Church was prepared in the Wilderness, where she was to be preserved, till the VVords of God was fulfilled, and she hath continued as a desolate VVidow for many Generations.

Rev. 12.

Rev. 13.

But now she is returning, and putting on her beautiful Garments, cloathed with the Sun, and crowned with Stars, which shine in the Firmament of the Lord's Power, being Mysteries of the Heavenly *Jerusalem*, whose Children are Free, begotten by the Immortal VVord of Life, and born of the Immortal Seed, to be Heirs of an Incorruptible Inheritance, that fadeth not away; and the Eyes of many are opened, and yet will be opened, to see and behold her Beauty; for the Lamb is her Husband, King and Law-giver; and

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the Nations of them who are ſaved muſt walk in his Light, and the Kings of the Earth ſhall bring their Glory and Honour to it, *Rev.* 21. 23, 24. The Glory and Honour of the *Gentiles* ſhall be brought unto it, *verſ.* 26.

And whoever would attain to the true and ſaving Knowledge of God, and be ſaved from the VVrath to come, muſt come to the Light of the Lamb, with which he hath inlightned them, and walk in it, which diſcovers the Deceit of their Hearts, and every evil Thought, VVord and VVork, before it is brought forth into Action; for in it is Power to reſiſt the Devil, in all his Temptations and and Aſſaults; and whoever believes in it, believes in Chriſt, and are Children of God, according to Chriſt's VVord, *John* 12. 36. *John* 1. 12. *Rom.* 8. 14. For God is Light, and dwells in it, and the Light dwelleth with him, *Dan.* 2. 22. *Pſal.* 36. 9. and 43. 3. and 97. 11. and 104. 2. and 118. 27. *Iſa.* 2. 5. and 42. 6. and 49. 6. and 60. 3. *Micah* 7. 8, 9. *Luke* 2. 32. *Acts* 13. 47. 1 *Tim.* 6. 16. 1 *John* 1. 5. This Light is God's Day, every Soul by it may ſee its Saviour and Deliverer, out of the Bond of Iniquity, and Houſe of Darkneſs; in which, while Men Live and VValk, tho' the Light ſhine never ſo clear, they cannot comprehend it, nor know the way of it, nor underſtand the Paths thereof, neither have any benefit by it, in order to their Salvation, *Job* 24. 13. This is the Light the Apoſtle *Peter* exhorted the Goſpel-Believers to take heed unto, ſaying, *We have a more ſure Word of Prophecy* (than that Voice which was heard in the Holy Mount) *unto which ye do well to take heed, as unto a Light that ſhineth in a dark place, till the Day dawn, and the Day-ſtar ariſe in your Hearts,* 2 Pet. 1. 19. Here the Goſpel-day was to ſpring, and the Day-ſtar to appear, in all true Believers in the Light, with which every one is inlightned, that they may take heed to it; ſo ſhall the true Goſpel-day dawn, and the Day-ſtar ariſe in their Hearts, from Generation to Generation: And bleſſed be the Lord, the Goſpel-day now ſhines, and the Darkneſs is paſt with many, who are ingaged to VVatch and be Sober, having *put on the Breaſt-plate of Righteouſneſs*, and the *Shield of Faith*, and *Helmet of Salvation*, and the *Sword of the Spirit*, or Spiritual Sword, which is the *Word of God*, by which they are able to reſiſt the Enemy of their Souls, and to *quench his fiery darts Within and Without*, for the Lord is their Shield and Buckler, who truſt in him, and do depend upon his Protection, they never meet with Diſappointment from him, but always return Victors, Glory, Honour and Living Praiſes be unto his Eternal and Honourable Name for evermore.

But many are ready to object and ſay, That falſe Spirits and Prophets are now come, according to Chriſt's words to his Diſciples, *Mat.* 7. 15, 17. *Beware of falſe Prophets, which come to you in Sheeps*

Sheeps cloathing, for inwardly they are ravening Wolves: You ſhall know them by their fruits, &c. Now let all ſeriouſly conſider, that he ſpake to his Diſciples then in being, many Ages ago; that they ſhould come to them, and that by their Fruits they ſhould know them (*i. e.*) the falſe Prophets; and the Apoſtle *John* ſaid to the little Children in this Day, *Ye have heard that Antichriſt ſhall come, even now are there many Antichriſts, whereby we know it is the laſt time: They went out from us, for they were not of us.* 1 *John* 2. 18, 19. And again in his 4th. Chapter, *Beloved, believe not every ſpirit, but try the ſpirits whether they be of God, for many falſe Prophets are gone out into the world,* 1 *John* 4. 1. Now Chriſt had ſaid, They ſhould come as above: And *John* ſaid they were come, and that they went out from them becauſe they were not of them, elſe they would have continued with them. Now I have declared above, what bloody Fruits they have brought forth in the World ſince they went into it; which is obvious to every judicious Eye, like Bryars and Thorns, of which no Grapes can be gathered; and have made the VVorld as a VVilderneſs full of wild Beaſts, and Beaſts of Prey, to this Day; what many falſe Prophets, which are now in the VVorld, who thorow Covetouſneſs with feigned VVords are daily making Merchandiſe of People, ſuch as the Apoſtle *Peter* ſpeaks of, 2 *Pet.* 2. 1. but the Day hath diſcovered them; Glory to God on high, Peace on Earth, and good VVill to Men.

Bleſſed be the Lord: The Spirit of Truth is come, which Chriſt promiſed when he went to the Father, that he would ſend, *John* 16. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14. *I tell you the Truth: It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come; but if I depart, I will ſend him;* and he deſcribed the Fruits of the Spirit of Truth. *Firſt,* He ſhould *Reprove the World of Sin,* that every Sinner on Earth may VVitneſs to; that when he Sins, he is reproved within himſelf by the Spirit of Truth. *2ly,* He will *Reprove the World of Righteouſneſs and of Judgment,* which every one who is in the VVorlds Righteouſneſs may Seal unto, being but as filthy Rags, and as a menſtruous Garment, *Iſa.* 64. 7. This is that outſide Righteouſneſs, which the Scribes and Phariſees had; which Chriſt cryed many woes againſt, *Mat.* 23. This Righteouſneſs the Spirit of Truth (now received by Man) doth reprove and Judge, being not the Righteouſneſs of Faith which firſt cleanſeth the inſide. *3ly, And when He is come, which is the Spirit of Truth, He will lead you into all Truth:* Of this there are many VVitneſſes at this Day, who have received the Spirit of Truth and given up to walk in it; it hath led them into all Truth, and out of all untruth. *4thly, He ſhall glorify me, for he ſhall take of mine, and give unto you:* There are thouſands can Seal unto this, at this day, who can

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and do glorify God in their Bodies and Spirits, by Vertue of that Spirit they have received from him. So we believe not every Spirit, but try the Spirits and Prophets, what Fruits they bring forth by the Spirit of Truth and the holy Scriptures, which we believe were given by Divine Inspiration; and profitable for Doctrine, for Correction, and for Instruction in Righteousness, that the Man of God may be Perfect, thorowly furnished to every good Work, 2 *Tim.* 3. 16, 17. and do see and certainly know that those are false Spirits and Prophets, who bring not forth Fruits of Holiness and Righteousness, in their Lives and Conversations; nor do they turn People to Righteousness, nor from the Evil of their VVays; but keep them for ever Learning, that they may be ever Paying, and yet never savingly come to the Knowledge of the Truth, whereby to be made Free, as Christ said to the *Jews*, *John* 1. 32. *If ye continue in my Word, then are you my Disciples indeed; and ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you Free.* The Lord God open Peoples Eyes, that they may see and know the things that belong to their Peace with God, before it be hid from their Eyes, *Amen.*

Reygate, in *Surrey*, the 8*th* of the 5*th* Month, 1703.

This being the Desire, and fervent Prayer, of him who would have all Men come to the Knowledge of the Truth, and be Saved, Called among Men,

Ambrose Rigge.

The SONG of a Solaced Soul.

MOunt up, my Soul, on Contemplation's Wing,
And sound high Praises, to thy Heavenly King;
Who hath Destroyed Death; that he may be
For evermore a Saviour unto thee.
Therefore to Live is Christ, to Dye is Gain,
That thou with Him, for ever may'st remain,
In perfect Triumph, over Death and Hell,
In those sweet Mansions, which no Tongue can tell.
So while on Earth thou dost continue here,
Mind thy Redeemer, with continual Fear;
Who will preserve thee, to thy finishing day,
From Sin to Death, and every Evil Way.
Then will God's Secrets ever thee Attend,
And Crown thy Head with Laurel in the End.

VVritten at *Reygate* in *Surry*, the 4*th* of the 8*th* Month, 1703, By *A. R.*

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